

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8643

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4102

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NL, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE HAGUE

REF: STATE 187109

1. DUTCH ARE EXTREMELY PLEASED BY SECRETARY'S VISIT AND ARE NOW DEVELOPING DETAILED PROGRAM. SECRETARY GENERAL OF MFA EMILE SCHIFF WILL COORDINATE OVERALL ARRANGEMENTS. ON SUBSTANTIVE SIDE POLITICAL DIRECTOR CHARLES RUTTEN, AND HIS DEPUTY, AMBASSADOR AT LARGE DE HOOP SCHEFFER, WHO WILL PICK UP WHEN RUTTEN DEPARTS ON LEAVE, WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY.

2. DUTCH ARE PLANNING FOR "WORKING VISIT" THAT WILL PERMIT MAXIMUM TIME FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS, PARTICULARLY ON SUBJECTS RELEVANT TO DUTCH PRESIDENCY OF EC-9. THEY WANT THE TALKS TO FOCUS ON MAIN FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS THAT WILL REQUIRE INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION IN COMING MONTHS. THEY MENTIONED AS SUBJECTS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING LEBANON, CYPRUS, SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES, DETENTE, AND SOME FOLLOW-UP TO GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S RECENT CONVERSATIONS HERE ON FORTHCOMING UNGA.

3. DUTCH WOULD LIKE TO KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHAT OTHER US OFFICIALS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS.

4. SCHIFF SAID FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL WOULD OF COURSE
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MEET SECRETARY AT AIRPORT, AS WELL AS SEE HIM OFF, AND WOULD

EXPECT TWO MINISTERS TO TRAVEL TOGETHER BY CAR TO THE HAGUE, GOING DIRECTLY TO MINISTER'S OFFICE FOR PRIVATE CONVERSATION. WORKING LUNCH WOULD FOLLOW AT APPROXIMATELY ONE O'CLOCK, GUESTS WOULD BE LIMITED TO KEY DUTCH MFA PARTICIPANTS IN CONVERSATION AND MEMBERS OF SECRETARY'S PARTY. POSSIBLY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS MIGHT BE ADDED. SCHIFF POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THIS WAS VACATION PERIOD, THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM OF HAVING TO ACCOMMODATE PRESTIGIOUS DUTCH PERSONALITIES BY INVITING THEM TO LUNCH. MFA OFFICIALS ASKED TO BE INFORMED IF SECRETARY HAD ANY SPECIAL FOOD PREFERENCES.

5. ACCORDING TO PRESENT PLANNING, LUNCHEON AND AFTERNOON MEETINGS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN BINNENHOF, CLOSE TO MFA, WHERE SPECIAL CONFERENCE SUITE HAS BEEN SET UP FOR USE DURING DUTCH EC PRESIDENCY. DUTCH WOULD LIKE TALKS TO RUN AT LEAST UNTIL 1600, AND IF POSSIBLE UNTIL 1630.

6. DUTCH WISH TO KNOW WHEN AND HOW SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE HAGUE WILL BE ANNOUNCED. FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW, THE LATER THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE HAGUE VISIT, THE BETTER, BUT THEY UNDERSTAND THAT WASHINGTON ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECRETARY'S TRIP MAY INCLUDE ALL STOPS EN ROUTE. THEIR CONCERN IN THIS REGARD, SCHIFF SAID, STEMS FROM CONSIDERATIONS OF SECURITY.

7. SINCE VISIT OF SECRETARY IS APPARENTLY FIRST VISIT OF SECRETARY OF STATE SINCE SECRETARY RUSK'S ATTENDANCE AT NATO MINISTERIAL IN EARLY 1960'S, MFA BELIEVES VISIT WILL DRAW SUBSTANTIAL PRESS ATTENTION. QUESTION WAS RAISED WHETHER SECRETARY WOULD WISH TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AND, IF SO, WHAT ARRANGEMENTS HE MIGHT WISH. EMBASSY PAO COULD ORGANIZE PRESS CONFERENCE IN CHANCERY AUDITORIUM IMMEDIATELY AFTER CONCLUSION OF TALKS WITH DUTCH OR PRESS COULD BE ASSEMBLED AT BINNENHOF IF SECRETARY PREFERRED. DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS REQUESTED. BROWN

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